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Police Act, 1861 (Central Act V of 1861), to the effect that any person or group of persons or organizations intending to convene or organize a public meeting or take out a procession within the limits of Coimbatore Municipality and within a radius of 5 miles of these limits must take out a licence under Section 30 (2) of the same Act.

"The order in question was made to be in force for a period of three weeks; but as the relationship between the management and the labourers continued to be strained, it was felt that in the interest of maintenance of public peace, the order should be extended to be in force for a further period. Hence with the concurrence of the Additional District Magistrate (Independent), Coimbatore, the Deputy Superintendent of Police extended the order to be in force for a further period of fourteen days from the date of the expiry of the original order."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" Sir, இன்றையதினமும் காளேஸ்வரா மில்லேச்சுற்றிலும் போலீஸ்காரர்கள் இருப்பதாகவும் அங்குள்ள தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு தொந்தரவுகள் கொடுத்துக்கொண்டிருப்பதாகவும் சொல்லப் படுகிறதே அது உண்மைதானு ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" A separate question may be put. I do not think that what the hon. Member says is correct."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Starred question Nos. 1178 and 1179 may be taken up together."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Yes."

Handloom workers' strike in Chirakkal taluk, Malabar.

* 1178 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there was a general strike in Chirakkal taluk, Malabar, since 10th December 1953 involving more than 12,000 handloom workers for the restoration of cut in wages; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken by the Government to bring a settlement in the dispute?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) It has been brought to the notice of the Government that strike in many of the factories were called off and the workers resumed work from 1st February 1954. Certain factories had either not provided work or refused to give work to the workers. The managements of the 124 factories have been served with show cause notices for contravention of Industrial Disputes Act. The matter whether these factories could be prosecuted or not is under examination."